

2011 - 2012 NEW HAMPSHIRE MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING REGULATIONS

NOTICE: A New Hampshire Migratory Waterfowl License, a Hip Validation Number, and a Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp are required. Only a Hip Validation Number is required for hunting Woodcock or Snipe. To obtain a Hip Validation Number call 1-800-207-6183 or www.wildlife.state.nh.us

Nontoxic Shot Requirements: No person shall have lead shot in their possession while in the act of waterfowl hunting. Nontoxic Shot is required statewide. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has approved Steel Shot, Bismuth-in Shot, Tungsten - Iron Shot, Tungsten - Polymer Shot, Tungsten - Matrix Shot, Tungsten - Nickel - Iron Shot, Tungsten - Iron - Nickel - Tin Shot, Tungsten - Bronze Shot, Tungsten - Tin - Bismuth Shot, Tungsten - Iron - Copper - Nickel Shot, Tungsten - Tin - Iron Shot, and Tungsten - Iron - Polymer Shot. Shooting hours are 1/2 hour BEFORE SUNRISE TO SUNSET.

DUCKS, Mergansers, Coots, and Canada Geese

Season Dates: INLAND ZONE: October 4 through November 6, November 23 through December 18.
COASTAL ZONE: October 5 through October 16; November 23 through January 9.

BRANT

Season Dates: INLAND ZONE: October 4 through November 22;
COASTAL ZONE: October 5 through November 23;
CANADA GEESE (September Season - Inland Zone and Coastal Zone) September 6 through September 25.

SNOW GEESE

Season Dates: INLAND ZONE: October 4 through December 18.
COASTAL ZONE: October 5 through January 9.

WOODCOCK

Season Dates: October 1 through November 14.

COMMON SNIFE

Season Dates: September 15 through November 14.

	DUCKS	Mergansers	COOT	SNOW GEESE	BRANT	WOODCOCK	COMMON SNIFE
Daily Bag Limit	6	5	15	25	2	3	8
Possession Limit	12	10	30	No Limit	4	6	16

SPECIES RESTRICTIONS

	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit
Mallard	4	8
Scoter	4	8
Elder	4	8
Long-tailed Duck	4	8
Wood Duck	3	6
Hooded Merganser	2	4
Redhead	2	4
Scaup	2	4
Pintail	2	4
Black Duck	1	2
Canvasback	closed	closed
Harlequin Duck	2	4
Canada Geese (Regular Season)	2	4
Canada Geese (September Season)	5	10

Sea Ducks (scoter, elder, & long-tailed duck): Season from October 1 through January 15 in all coastal waters & rivers & streams seaward from the first upstream bridge.

Bag limit: 7 of which no more than 4 shall be scoters, or elders, or long-tailed ducks. Possession limit: 14 of which no more than 8 shall be scoters, or elders, or long-tailed ducks. In all other areas of the state, sea ducks may be taken only during the regular open season for ducks and shall be included in the regular season daily bag and possession limit.

Falconry (Extended Season): The inland zone season shall be November 7 - November 22 and December 19 - January 16. The coastal zone season shall be January 26 - March 10. The Falconry daily bag limit shall not exceed 3 migratory game birds in the aggregate.

STATE RESTRICTION - RETRIEVAL OF CRIPPLES: The shooting of crippled waterfowl from a craft or motorboat under power is prohibited in all inland and coastal waters of the state including coastal and sea duck areas.

Areas Closed to Duck Hunting:

Certain areas are closed to duck hunting by State rule or law, such as Back Channel, which is located in Portsmouth, Rye and New Castle. For Detailed information about this closure or other closures, contact the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department at 271-3211.

Special Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days: September 24 and 25 shall be New Hampshire's youth waterfowl hunting days. Youths shall be 15 years of age or younger and shall be accompanied by a licensed adult over 18 years of age. Adults who accompany youth hunters during the special youth waterfowl hunting days shall possess a current hunting license and shall not take waterfowl. Youth hunters shall take waterfowl in accordance with the 2011-2012 New Hampshire Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations.

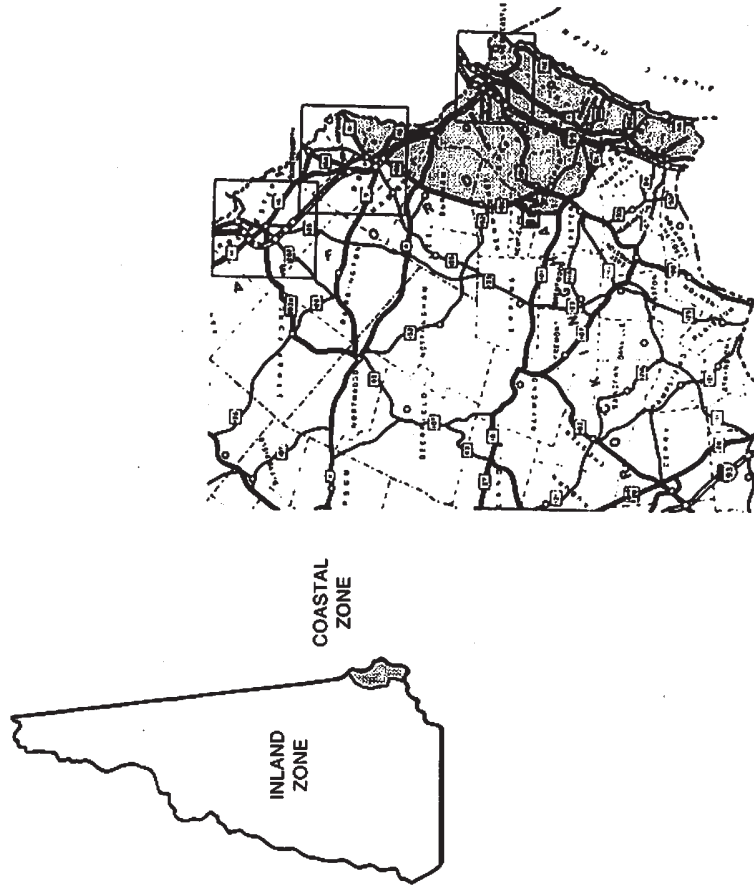
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Coastal Zone - Beginning at the Maine-New Hampshire line in Rollinsford, that portion of the State east of a boundary formed by State Highway 4 west to the city of Dover, south to the intersection of State Highway 108, south along State Highway 108 through Madbury, Durham, and Newmarket to the junction of State Highway 85 in Newfields, south to State Highway 101 in Exeter, east to Interstate 95 (New Hampshire Turnpike) in Hampton, and south to the Massachusetts Line.

Inland Zone - That portion of the State west of the above boundary, including the Vermont portion of the Connecticut River Zone which is that area east of Interstate 91 beginning at the Massachusetts border; Interstate 91 north to Route 2; Route 2 north to Route 102; Route 102 north to Route 253; and Route 253 north to the border with Canada. A person holding a New Hampshire hunting license which allows taking of migratory waterfowl may take migratory waterfowl and coots from the Connecticut River Zone.

The Connecticut River Zone in New Hampshire shall include that portion of New Hampshire lying west of the line defined by New Hampshire Route 63 from the Massachusetts border north to Route 12; Route 12 north to Route 12-A; Route 12-A north to Route 10; Route 10 north to Route 135; Route 135 north to U.S. Route 3; U.S. Route 3 north to the intersection with the Connecticut River. A person holding a Vermont resident hunting license which allows the taking of migratory waterfowl may take migratory waterfowl and coots from the Connecticut River Zone.

The Connecticut River Zone is an extension of the New Hampshire Inland Zone. The waterfowl regulations for the New Hampshire Inland Zone apply to the entire Connecticut River Zone in both New Hampshire and Vermont.



DELINEATION OF INLAND-COASTAL BOUNDARY

SUMMARY OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS

In addition to State regulations, the following Federal rules apply to the taking, possession, shipping, transporting, and storing of migratory game birds. This is only a summary. Each hunter should also consult actual Federal regulations, which may be found in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20.

RESTRICTION. No person shall take migratory game birds:

- With a trap, snare, net, crossbow, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10-gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance.
- With a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun.
- From a sink box (a low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).
- From or with the aid or use of a car or other motor-driven land conveyance, or any aircraft, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance. "Paraplegic" means an individual afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with involvement of both legs, usually due to disease of or injury to the spinal cord.
- From or by means of any motor boat or sail boat unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sail furled, and its progress therefrom has ceased.
- By the use or aid of live decoys. All live, tame or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such tame birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.
- Using records or tapes of migratory bird calls or sounds, or electrically amplified imitations of birds calls.
- By means or aid of any motorized conveyance or any sail boat used for the purpose of or resulting in the driving, rallying, chasing, or stirring up of birds.
- By the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited. Baiting means the direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of salt, grain, or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on, or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take them. Any such area will remain a baited area for ten days following the complete removal of all such salt, grain or other feed.

CLOSED SEASON. No person shall take migratory game birds during the closed season.

SHOOTING OR HAWKING HOURS. No person shall take migratory game birds except during the hours open to shooting and hawking as prescribed.

DAILY BAG LIMIT. No person shall take in any one day more than one daily bag limit.

TAGGING. No person shall give, put or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information:

1. The hunter's signature.
2. The hunter's address.
3. The total number of birds involved, by species.
4. The dates such birds were killed.

CUSTODY OF BIRDS OF ANOTHER. No person or business shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

FIELD POSSESSION LIMIT. No person shall possess more than one daily bag limit tagged or not tagged while in the field or while returning from the field to one's car, hunting camp, home, etc.

WANTON WASTE. No person shall kill or cripple any migratory game bird without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the bird and retain it in their actual custody.

POSSESSION OF LIVE BIRDS. Wounded birds reduced to possession shall be immediately killed and included in the daily bag limit.

DRESSING. No person shall completely field dress any migratory game bird (except doves and band-tailed pigeons) and then transport the birds from the field. The head or one fully feathered wing must remain attached to all such birds while being transported from the field to one's home or to a migratory bird preservation facility.

SHIPMENT. No person shall ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with: (a) the name and address of the person sending the birds, (b) the name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent, and (c) the number of birds, by species, contained in the package.

IMPORTATION. For information regarding the importation of migratory birds killed in another country hunters should consult 50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66. One fully-feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory game birds being transported between the port of entry and one's home or to a migratory bird preservation facility. No person shall import migratory game birds belonging to another person.

MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING AND CONSERVATION STAMP.

The law requires that each waterfowl hunter 16 years of age and over must carry on their person a valid Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, or duck stamp, signed in ink across the face.

DUAL VIOLATION. Violation of State migratory bird regulations is also a violation of Federal regulations.

CAUTION: More restrictive regulations may apply to National Wildlife Refuges open to public hunting. For additional information on Federal regulations, contact Resident Special Agent, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 1101, Portsmouth NH 03802, (603) 433-0502. Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge, (603) 431-7511. Lake Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge, (603) 482-3415.

BANDED WATERFOWL: Please report all banded waterfowl by calling the toll free number: 1-800-327-BAND or website: www.reportband.gov

This publication is intended for information purposes only. The officially filed rules may be examined at Administrative Procedures Division – Office of Legislative Services, State House, Concord, New Hampshire 03301.